

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

GP 1632
#5
Linda
10/17/00

In re application of: Soreq, et al

Serial No. 09/310,638

Group Art Unit: 1632

Filed: 05/12/99

Examiner: Crouch, D.

For: TRANSGENIC ANIMAL ASSAY SYSTEM FOR
ANTI-CHOLINESTERASE SUBSTANCES

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Attorney Docket No. 2391.00096

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 5, 2000,
paper number 4.

Restriction to one of the following groups was required under 35 U.S.C.

§ 121:

I. Claims 1-10, drawn to DNA, vector, and cell classified in class 435,
subclass 320.1.

II. Claims 11-14, 17-20 and 23-25, drawn to transgenic animals and a
transgenic animal assay system, classified in class 800, subclass 13.

III. Claims 15-16, drawn to acetylcholinesterase, classified in class 435, subclass 196.

IV. Claims 21 and 22, drawn to a method of treatment by administering antisense oligonucleotides, classified in class 514, subclass 44.

Applicants provisionally elect Group II, claims 11-14, 17-20 and 23-25 for prosecution purposes, with traverse. Applicants hereby conditionally withdraw claims 1-10, 15-16 and 21-22 from prosecution, without prejudice, and request reconsideration of the restriction requirement.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement based on the following grounds. It is respectfully submitted that the restriction requirement practice was established to promote efficiency of prosecution in the Patent Office. All the groups of claims relate to acetylcholinesterase and methods of using this compound in treatment of patients. It is respectfully submitted that examination of all the claims in a single application would be efficient, thereby promoting the grounds for the establishment of the restriction requirement practice. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that restrictions should not be required and that applicants have traversed the restriction requirement. However, as stated above, applicants have elected the claims of Group II and provisionally withdraw claims 1-10, 15-16 and 21-22, without prejudice, pending reconsideration of the restriction requirement.

Applicant now is in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 11-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

KOHN & ASSOCIATES

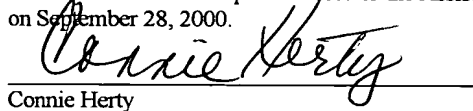


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Dated: September 28, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on September 28, 2000.



Connie Herty